## **News Release**

Arizona State Land Department Office of the State Forester



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 23, 2006

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Cliff Pearlberg, Wildland Fire Prevention Officer, Arizona State Land Department, Forestry Division (602) 771-1405

Pursuant to the provisions of ARS § 37-623, the State Land Commissioner has declared the existence of a statewide wildland fire emergency and the State Land Commissioner has declared a closure of the following State Trust Lands to all Recreational Use from Friday, June 23, 2006 at 8:00 AM until July 31, 2006 or until further notice:

- 1. Within and adjacent to the Bradshaw Ranger District, Prescott National Forest beginning at the Forest boundary, west and south along the Castle Creek Wilderness boundary to Whiskey Springs, then south along Forest Service Road 100 to Trail 233 (Lane Mountain Trail); then southwest along the trail to the Forest boundary, then east and north along the Forest boundary to county road 59.
- 2. Within and adjacent to the Verde Ranger District, Prescott National Forest beginning at the junction of Highways 260 and 89A, continuing east on Highway 89A to the Verde River. Continue south along the Prescott National Forest Boundary on the Verde River to the Gap Creek River Access Point (RAP trail). Follow the Gap Creek RAP trail to Forest Service Road 574. Continue north on Forest Service Road 574 to County Road 163 (Salt Mine Road). Continue north on County Road 163 to Highway 260. Follow Highway 260 north to the junction of Highway 89A.
  - State Trust Lands within and adjacent to FR 574 from its junction with County Road 163 to its end are closed to recreational use.
  - State Trust Lands within and adjacent to FR 132 from it junction with County Road 75 to the point it crosses the section line between Sections 25 and 26 of Township 15 North, Range 3 East are closed to recreational use.
  - State Trust Lands within and adjacent to FR 413 from its junction with Highway 89A to the point it crosses the section line between Sections 25 and 26 of Township 15 North, Range 3 East are closed to recreational use.
- **3.** Within and adjacent to the Tonto National Forest along the Mogollon Rim from the town of Strawberry to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.
- **4.** Within and adjacent to the Tonto National Forest in around the Pinal Mountains south of Globe.
- 5. Within and adjacent to Bill Williams Mountain on the Kaibab National Forest.
- **6.** Within and adjacent to an area east of Malay Gap to two miles north of the Honeymoon Campground on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.
- 7. Within and adjacent to the Alpine Ranger district on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest south and west of Alpine as well as the Bear Wallow Wilderness and the areas of the KP and Three Forks fire closures.
- **8.** Within and adjacent to the Springerville Ranger District on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest northwest of Greer and south of Greer including the Mount Baldy Wilderness.
- **9.** Within and adjacent to the Lakeside Ranger District on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest north of Pinetop between Forest Roads 182 and 45 as well as areas north of Lakeside and south of Show Low.
- **10.** Within and adjacent to the Black Mesa Ranger District on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Forest Road 9350 is closed, Promontory Butte is closed and the Larson area west and south of Forest

Lakes is closed.

11. All State Trust Lands within and adjacent to the Coconino National Forest.

## The following restrictions on fire causing activities are in effect through July 31, 2006, or until further notice, on those State Trust Lands NOT described above:

- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, or charcoal burning device, except as specifically permitted by the State Forester on a case-by-case basis. Petroleum fueled stoves, lanterns, or heating devices are exempt from these restrictions.
- Using fireworks, as defined in ARS § 36-1601.
- Smoking, except within a closed vehicle, building, developed campground or while stopped in an area at least 3 feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.

These restrictions also apply to all lease and permit holders.

Any State, federal, or local fire or law enforcement officer, or member of an organized firefighting force is exempt from these prohibitions while in the performance of their official firefighting duties.

For more information please visit <u>www.azfireinfo.com</u> on the World Wide Web or call toll free 877-864-6985.

###